

Claims

1. A television programme guide display providing information relating to programmes which can be selected to be viewed, said display including a grid (2) having a time bar (4) to indicate the particular time period to which the display relates, a series of cells (10), each cell representing a programme, and one or a number of the cells representing a programme channel, at least one of said cells (10) selectable to select a programme for viewing and characterised in that if a programme indicated by a cell does not start or finish within the time period represented by the time bar (4) on the display, a display portion is generated on the display with respect to the said cell for the programme at an appropriate location and said display portion shows the time which has elapsed since the said programme started and/or which will lapse beyond the time period shown before the programme ends.

2. A television programme guide display according to claim 1 characterised in that for any particular time period a plurality of cells (10) corresponding to a plurality of programmes show the time which has elapsed since each programme started and/or which will lapse beyond the time period shown before the programme ends.

3. A television programme guide display according to claim 1 characterised in that the time displayed is calculated from the start or end times for the time period shown.

4. A television programme guide display according to claim 1 characterised in that the time displayed is calculated with respect to the time at which the display is being viewed by the user.

5. A method of generating a television programme guide, said television programme guide including at least one display page

comprising a grid (2), generating said grid (2) by providing a time bar (4), a series of cells (10), each cell indicating a programme to be shown on a particular channel over the time period displayed, and the size of each cell, indicating the start, finish and length of each programme with respect to the time bar (4) and characterised in that if a cell for a particular programme indicates that the said programme has already started prior to the time period displayed on the display page or finishes after the time period displayed on the display page, a calculation is undertaken between the start or finish times of the time bar (4) which is displayed and the start or finish times of the particular programme as appropriate and the difference is displayed with respect to the said programme cell on the display.

6. A method of generating a television guide display according to claim 5 characterised in that the display is provided as an additional portion of the cell so that those cells which indicate programmes which have started or will finish outside the time period which is displayed on the display page, will protrude from the appropriate side edge of the grid (2) and, in said additional portion, will be displayed the time which has elapsed or will lapse from the start or before the finish of the programme as appropriate.

7. A method according to claim 5 characterised in that the calculation, and data relating to the calculation, is transmitted from a broadcaster at a remote location to a broadcast data receiver so that, during the processing of the data, the broadcast data receiver can generate the display page to include said time indications.